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Three hundred and thirty-nine lantern slides have been added to the collection as a loan from the Ludwick Institute. These are distinguished in the catalogue by blue cards.

The intelligence and reliability of my assistant, William J. Fox, in the discharge of his duties, both in the Library and in connection with the publications of the Academy, are again gladly acknowledged.

EDWARD J. NOLAN,
Librarian.

REPORT OF THE CURATORS.

The collections in the care of the Curators are in excellent condition, while much progress has been made during the year in their study and classification.

Early in the year work was begun upon the new concrete and steel roof for the Library building, for which the Academy received an appropriation of \$20,000 from the State of Pennsylvania, and by the beginning of the autumn it had been completed. The new roof is a needed improvement, being thoroughly waterproof and fireproof, while it admits an abundance of light to the Museum galleries.

This work necessitated the temporary closing of the old Museum to the public and the removal of all the collections from the upper gallery, while the cases on the lower floor had to be boarded up for their better protection. The rearrangement of the collections is now in progress and will be pushed rapidly during the coming year.

Two thousand and sixteen cubic feet of exhibition cases uniform with those previously installed have been ordered for birds, invertebrate fossils and the McCook collection of insect architecture.

A number of air-tight metal storage cases have been provided for the bird and mammal skins and for the Herbarium.

Mr. Clarence B. Moore has continued his exploration of the Indian mounds of the Gulf States and has still further enriched his unrivalled collection.

Through the liberality of Mrs. Charles Schaeffer, Mr. Stewardson Brown was enabled to spend two months collecting botanical specimens in the Canadian Rockies, where he obtained about 4,000 plants representing 700 species.

Dr. Henry Skinner visited Idaho in the interest of the Academy for

the purpose of making entomological collections, but a serious attack of illness materially interfered with his work.

Dr. H. A. Pilsbry spent October and November in the prosecution of his studies on the molluscan fauna of Arizona.

In addition to these extended expeditions many local collecting trips have been undertaken by the members of the Museum staff and much valuable material secured.

Among the more notable accessions to the Museum during the year may be mentioned the Gulick collection of Hawaiian mollusks, which formed the basis of Mr. Gulick's well-known paper on "Evolution, Racial and Habitual"; the collection of bird skins formed by the late Canon Tristram, of Durham, England, representing over 3,000 species from all parts of the world, a large proportion of them new to the Academy's collection; and another valuable collection of marine invertebrates from Naples, presented by Dr. Henry C. Chapman.

A number of valuable mammals received from the Zoological Society of Philadelphia or by purchase have been mounted by the taxidermist and many others prepared as skins or skeletons. Considerable additions have been made to the alcoholic series in Herpetology.

In addition to the services rendered by the Museum staff the Curators are indebted to Dr. P. P. Calvert, Messrs. E. T. Cresson, Jr., and H. W. Wenzel for aid in the Entomological department, and to Mr. S. S. Van Pelt in the Herbarium.

Details of the year's work in several departments are appended. In addition Dr. J. P. Moore has continued the care and study of the Helminthological collections, and Mr. H. W. Fowler of the Fishes, while Miss H. N. Wardle has made progress in cataloguing and arranging the Archæological collections.

The Anti-Tuberculosis Society, Philadelphia Botanical Club, and Delaware Valley Ornithological Club have held their meetings in the Academy during the year. The collections have been consulted by many visiting scientists and specimens have been loaned to Robert Ridgway, H. W. Henshaw, H. I. Smith, C. Hart Merriam, D. G. Elliot, M. W. Lyon, H. F. Osborn, E. B. Williamson, Frank Stephens, G. W. Clapp, A. N. Caudell, O. P. Hay, O. A. Peterson, G. S. Miller, Jr., F. C. Baker, Lawrence Bruner, Earl Douglass, and E. W. Nelson.

SAMUEL G. DIXON,
Curator.

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL CURATOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOLLUSCA.

Early in the year the entire collection of mollusks was removed from the upper gallery, and has remained packed up during the construction

of the new roof of the Museum. New cases have now been ordered, which will enable us to rearrange the specimens during the coming year. Meanwhile work has been continued upon such parts of the collection as were accessible.

Large accessions have been received from numerous correspondents of the Curator. A list of these gifts may be found in the accessions to the Museum. The largest single accession has been the collection of Hawaiian land snails purchased from Dr. John T. Gulick. This series served as the basis of that author's important studies on evolution, as well as his systematic papers on the Hawaiian fauna. Mr. H. Bloomfield Moore has contributed largely to our series of small land mollusks of Georgia and Florida by gatherings of leaves and humus, from which large numbers of shells have been picked by Mr. Vanatta.

The Special Curator has been occupied chiefly with the preparation of the *MANUAL OF CONCHOLOGY*, the monograph of the family *Achatinidae* being completed this year, and the collections of this group revised and relabelled. Studies of American and Japanese mollusks have also been continued. The months of October and November were spent in Arizona and New Mexico, chiefly in the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, the Florida and Chiricahua Mountains, and large collections of the mollusca of these regions were obtained.

Mr. E. G. Vanatta has continued his efficient work as Assistant in the department throughout the year.

H. A. PILSBRY,
Special Curator.

REPORTS OF THE SECTIONS.

THE BIOLOGICAL AND MICROSCOPICAL SECTION.

The Section has held nine stated and several informal meetings with the usual attendance.

The donations reported by the Conservator are as follows: One Zentmayer histological microscope with three objectives; one Fiddian and one Acme microscope lamp; about 400 slides, including two Möller type plates and an arranged monogram mount by Thum; about twenty-five books, including Van Heurck's *Diatoms of Belgium*, the *Micrographic Dictionary*, and a lot of unmounted material and mounting apparatus. All the above are from the collection of the late John C. Wilson, presented by Miss Maria S. Wilson.